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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the VA Work-Study program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTWRIGHT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the VA Work-Study program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “VA Work-Study Im-
5 provement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO VA WORK-STUDY PROGRAM.**

7 (a) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (a)(5) of
8 section 3485 of title 38, United States Code, is amended
9 by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

1 “(L) Any other activity at an agency of a State
2 or local government or a nonprofit organization that
3 would benefit, directly or indirectly, veterans or
4 members of the Armed Forces.”.

5 (b) APPLICABLE HOURLY MINIMUM WAGE.—Para-
6 graph (7) of subsection (a) of such section is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 “(7) In this subsection and subsection (e):

9 “(A) The term ‘applicable hourly minimum
10 wages’ means the higher of the following wages:

11 “(i) The minimum rate of basic pay for
12 any Federal employee under the General Sched-
13 ule or the Federal Wage System pursuant to
14 parts 530 and 532 of title 5, Code of Federal
15 Regulations.

16 “(ii) The hourly minimum wage under
17 comparable law of the State in which the serv-
18 ices are to be performed.

19 “(iii) The hourly minimum wage under
20 comparable law of the local government with ju-
21 risdiction over the area in which the services
22 are to be performed.

23 “(B) The term ‘rate of basic pay’ has the
24 meaning given such term in section 8331 of title 5.”.

1 (c) ELECTRONIC TIMESHEETS.—Such section is
2 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
3 section:

4 “(f) The Secretary shall ensure that—

5 “(1) an individual participating in a qualifying
6 work-study activity may electronically record the
7 hours worked under such activity; and

8 “(2) the supervisor of such individual may elec-
9 tronically approve such records.”.

10 (d) PUBLICATION OF DATA.—Such section, as
11 amended by subsection (c), is further amended by adding
12 at the end the following new subsection:

13 “(g) On an annual basis, the Secretary shall publish
14 the following information regarding qualifying work-study
15 activities carried out during the covered year:

16 “(1) The number of individuals who partici-
17 pated in a qualifying work-study activity.

18 “(2) The demographics of such individuals.

19 “(3) A description of such activities.

20 “(4) The wages paid to such individuals.

21 “(5) The number of hours worked by such indi-
22 viduals.

23 “(6) A list of the participating educational in-
24 stitutions.”.

1 (e) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
2 Act shall apply with respect to a payment of work-study
3 allowance made under section 3485 of title 38, United
4 States Code, on or after January 1, 2026.